

President's Message ~ September 2016

Planning for this fall's meetings was held in August with our local section officers in attendance. See the preliminary meeting schedule included in this newsletter and remember to set aside time to attend the monthly meetings. We have scheduled the meetings to be held in a centralized location in order to encourage attendance and to minimize time away from your productive work schedule.

We submitted for section recognition at the annual meeting and were awarded "GOLD" status for our section. Items where the section is strong include Section Outreach and Student Scholarships, and Individual Professional Certifications. If you would like a placard to hang on your wall, let me know and I can provide you the award.

This year's officers are noted in this newsletter. Please contact one of them if you would like to participate in this year's upcoming activities. We always need speakers for the monthly meetings and if you are particularly adept at an area of project controls, estimating, scheduling, management, construction, etc.; please step forward and volunteer to speak on a subject.

Also, when we meet with the UNM students, Thursday, October 20th, it is beneficial for the students to hear first-hand the working experiences of the local section members. So be sure to set aside the October 20th meeting date and plan on attending and participating in our meeting with the students. We meet at the Centennial Building and spring for pizzas and salads for the students.

On Friday the 16th of September we had our monthly meeting at Fiesta's. Our speaker was R. Bettinger of Tecelote, LLC. Ryan spoke on "Modelling Lifetime Costs of Managing and Storing Retired Minuteman II ICBM Motors". A very interesting and somewhat complex assessment of how to store or dispose or use the motors in the most economical and beneficial fashion. Thanks Ryan.

There are also two additional opportunities to meet with local and regional AACEI members:

1. Our local chapter will be having a "Los Alamos" area AACEI section meeting and it is scheduled for September 29th. More to follow on location and time. However, it will be a technical meeting and the topic is "Project Risk". Also, the benefits of membership in AACEI will be presented. K. Garza, A. Garza, and L. Sheron are spearheading this meeting. Make it a point to attend this meeting if you are in the area.
2. Chris Caddell, our regional section leader, is leading the charge for a Symposium. The Symposium will be in the Houston area, November 4th and 5th. You probably have had e-mail notices about the Symposium, but contact Chris to verify availability.

Also, don't forget to visit our local chapter's website to see about job opportunities, meeting times, and a general background on activities of the chapter.

See you Thursday, September 29th at Los Alamos, and make a date to meet the students on Thursday, October 20th at lunchtime.

Michael Ebbers, PE, CCP

CERTIFICATIONS / EDUCATION BOARD

If you are also considering examination and registration, please begin your application process and completion of the necessary requirements. If you work in any type of cost and schedule disciplines on a part-time or continuous basis you should seriously consider becoming certified in your area of expertise. Certification validates your professional background and your commitment to providing services within your area of expertise.

Check the AACEI.org website under certifications for the necessary requirements for certification. The AACEI is going to computer based testing. R. Bettinger is our most recent member who qualified as a CCP.

The current listing of certifications includes:

- Certified Cost Professional (CCP)
- Certified Cost Consultant (CCC)
- Certified Cost Technician (CCT)
- Certified Estimating Professionals (CEP)
- Certified Forensic Claims Consultant (CFCC)
- Earned Value Professional (EVP)
- Planning & Scheduling Profession (PSP)
- Certified Scheduling Technician (CST)
- Decision and Risk Management Certification (DRMC) – currently under BETA testing

Please note that our local section has workbooks that are available to you for reference and use as a study guide in the pursuit of certification. Contact Mike Ebbers for use of the books.

Other materials provide by the AACEI Education Board includes:

- Seminar in a Box
- On-Line Learning Center
- S&K 6th Edition
- Study Guides
 - Decision and Risk Management
 - Cost Estimating
 - Scheduling Primer
 - Estimating Primer

SCHOLARSHIPS

We now have two scholarships available. The first scholarship is the book scholarship. It is an NM ACEI Section ongoing campaign to give a book scholarship to an in-state post-secondary student in the construction and engineering disciplines. To this date, I believe we have had zero applicants. If you know of a student who is eligible, please let them know of the scholarship. Contact Tim Cynova for information or see our Sections website www.acei-nm.org for additional details.

Our second scholarship is the “Top Cat” scholarship. It is being sponsored by Power Engineering out of Colorado and is in honor of Andy Padilla. Andy was a long time ACEI member of our local chapter and worked at both the local and national levels during his lifetime. This scholarship is \$1,000 per year and will be available for 5 years.

Per discussion with advisors at UNM, it was noted that there are more scholarships than applicants for the scholarships. If your niece, nephew, son, granddaughter is enrolled at UNM, it might be worthwhile to set up a date and go see what scholarships are available.